

11/21/05 FCRTC Minutes and Action Items

Attendees:

Mark Lamkin – Chair
Tom Branham – Vice Chair
Carol Lenson – Member
George Dixon – Member
Jim Kubat – Member
John Brennan – Associate Member
Robert Smoko – Associate Member
Ken Dellpapa – NBPAC
Marybeth Murphy – Clerk

Administration:

1. **Announcements** - Robert Smoko voted in as an Associate Member – the motion was unanimously approved.
2. **Public Comment** - Kevin Bassage from REI has offered the store for meetings. Mark will accept but note that since the Committee is Town committee, it should meet a public building if one is available.
3. **Approval of Minutes** – None approved
4. **Financial Report** – Received a \$50 donation. There is \$5,229.58 in the account.

Old Business:

1. **Brochures** – Tom B. noted that the Committee will receive 500 brochures at no charge because of the printers delay. 25 were given to Carol for the bird houses. John B. has been putting fliers at Firefly and John Harvards restaurants.
2. **ZBA Hearing** – George updated on the hearing which is now closed. They are considering 16 conditions on the permit. There will be further discussion tomorrow night and maybe a final vote. The permit may be limited to 5 years.
3. **Design Subcommittee Report** – Marybeth gave an update on the status of addressing the MTA comments. The subcommittee met and agreed that in order to get the trail crossings open sooner, we would need to accommodate many of the comments. Major changes are:
 - bollards on both sides of each driveway,
 - additional signage restricting motorized traffic
 - gate at Route 30 with signage
 - information on construction detailsGeorge moved that the design committee proceed with our recommendations to address the MTA comments and it was

unanimously agreed. Mark wants to have a site visit with the Disability Commission and their consultant.

4. **Budget for Upcoming Fiscal Year** – Bryan T. had told the Town that a “Friends” group would maintain the trail. Mark e-mailed DPW, but Peter Sellers noted that Town was not in position to mow, prune right now. Peter has now put in a line item for a trail in the budget. The Committee needs to put together a maintenance budget for the trail (scope and cost information) for next year’s budget. Volunteer was requested for research and Robert volunteered. The final trail, once constructed in its entirety, will either be maintained by DPW, Parks & Recreation or the Conservation Commission. Mark will meet with Peter Sellers to discuss. John B. has some costs for the Holliston and Nobscot ROW which he will give to Robert. Bruce Freeman Rail Trail also has links to other trails maintenance information.
5. **Selectmen’s Update** – may not get on agenda until later. Want a public announcement from Selectmen. Need to request and obtain letters from present abutters.
6. **Trail Inspection** - section of fencing pushed into brook, contractor to pull out of brook. Bryan has to extend lease for fencing. George suggested buying fence. George will call Bryan about buying fence. Safety issue with the fence not being in place. Some trees north of OCP are down (one at School Street). Some of the telephone poles used as barriers at Luchetti are within 125’ of wetlands and a few may need to be removed. Tim Flaven mentioned his concern about a small gully at Proscape, but John B. did not think it had worsened. John B. to send picture to Mark L to send to Michelle.

New Business :

1. **Planning and Economic Development** – Mark met with Bryan and got comments on Phase I plans. Junior Planner – Lily? –assigned to Trail, she’s involved with other transportation projects and is getting involved in enhancement funding grants. Tom B. suggested her a welcome note and invite her to attend a meeting.
2. **Promotional Material** – caps popular, redesign T-shirts. Tom B. wants to help with t-shirts redesign. Working Group – Tom B., John B., Robert and Jim Kubat.
3. **Re-zoning of Railroad Corridor** – Planning Board wants to rezone as “open space”. George suggested that the work should be part of Town Master plan not a separate article but part of overall plan. Tom B. – MBTA & MTA rail corridor funding eligibility may be affected by re-zoning as Open Space.

4. **Community Assistance** - RCN – Community service project. Town suggested rail trail. Want to sponsor a work day, could attract about 30 people. Mark told them Spring would be good, let's talk to them in Feb/March.

Other:

1. **Trail Rules** - may need rules once Phase 1 driveways are open but, this may be a longer process than just obtaining the Selectman's review and approval. John B. has photo's of other trails rules. Safety officer should review.
2. **MTA Grant** – Dec 21st deadline – John B. has the application. \$100,000 was obtained in 2001. Mark asked Bryan and Bryan thought that since we have \$70,000 left and trail is not open yet it would be hard to get more money.
3. **School St.** - Gate – needs rail trail sign & no dumping sign.
4. **Cones at Luchetti's** – we may need to pay for cones that were stolen.
5. **Open Trail** – anticipate 6 months to implement. Schedule – Jim Kubat offered to make up a schedule. 6-8 weeks should be allowed for procurement. MTA approval time also needs to be factored in.
6. **TJX** – Bill Tuttle concerned about slope but will wait until spring. The slope issue might help facilitate a meeting with TJX, especially if MTA were at the table. John B. noted concern about the lack of communication on TJX's part. He suggested that a letter from the Selectmen to the president of TJX might help (Katie Murphy?). George would be willing to draft the letter.
7. **Brochure** – John noted that the restaurants are each moving 25+/- brochures a week. John Howard may sponsor trail event. Fireflys (Ben) offered food for an event. Mark L. suggested raffle ideas/free drawing for attendees. John offered to tell others how to get restaurants involved.
8. **Thank you notes** – Mark L. warned that we need to be more careful in the future, some have come back to haunt us.
9. **Environmental Liability Insurance** – Is in conference committee. Blumer already sent in her support. Mark suggested that Committee send a letter, but Tom B. & George suggested personal letters. Vote was four in favor, 2 abstained. Mark L. to send letter tomorrow.

Adjourned